The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all person who are interested in matters properly belonging to this de-partment.

Heavy Draft Horses.

In Boston, New York, and other cities, large, powerful, draft horses are selling at very remunerative prices, consequently many might be bred by farmers who have no inclination to raise trotters, and a more useful race of plow teams would thus be brought into existence. There are at present time a great many mares which are comparatively small, but which would breed fine stock from our great draft stallions. There will soon be an increased demand for these horses in consequence of their exportation to England, which has already begun, and because the great railway companies find these heavy horses are far more suitable for moving cars through cities from one depot to another. Besides this, there is a growing tendency to use more substantial agricultural implements, and a riding sulky-plow is now being made to the number of thousands in the West, and these are pretty weighty and will require strong horses to work them. There are already a great many stallions spread over the West and Canada, and stallions are advertised to be sold or let for the season, so doubtless the services of horses will be obtainable by every one who may take a little trouble.

The United States is at the present day improving her agricultural live stock of all varieties in a very rapid manner, and it only requires a better system of managing grass land and of restoring fertility to the over-cultivated and overeropped soil to insure a long period of agricultural prosperity.

To Make Great Laying Hens.

It is claimed that there is as much advantage gained in selecting hens with prolific tendencies from any breed, as in selecting good milkers to improve the dairy stock, and the hypothetic-perhaps established fact—is one that stands to reason. Every one who keeps fowls is well aware that certain ones are greater egg producers than others of the flock, and the eggs of only such as these should be saved for the purpose of increase. One writer on the subject says that he is perfectly certain that the number of two hundred eggs per annum may be attained with perfect case in a few years' time should the object be systematically sought. It is a matter within the means of all who feel interested in it, and one that can be easily tested without any knowledge whatever as to fancy points. If the poultry flock of the farmer can be made to produce double the eggs usually obtained from a certain number of hens, the improvement will be a paying one .-Ohio Farmer.

A Novel Scare Crow.

Says an exchange: "A very successful plan has been tried by placing in the crow's way a number of grains with a horse-hair run through them. He is bound to swallow one, and his note of alarm is soon sounded. It is impossible for him to dislodge the grain, and if he can be watched a sufficient length, of time he will be seen to cut his own throat in scratching at it. His usual note is changed, and I can assure you, life to him is such a misery he would even wish that he were dead. It has been noticed that after the note of alarm has been sounded all the crows in the vicinity will leave that field and approach it no more that season. It is a simple thing, yet all who try it will find it a success."

A correspondent of the Rural Sun advises that sweet-potato hills be mulched with old straw, sorgho cane stalks, leaves, shavings, sawdust, old spent tanbark, or anything that will hold moisture. filling up between the ridges to the top: the mulch keeps down the weedsand grass, and keeps the vines from taking root between the ridges, and keeps the ground moist and warm, two very necessary conditions to the rapid growth of the tubers. Last seasons the vines so mulched produced far more and better potatoes than the unmulched portion. The mulch is applied about the time the vines begin to form runners strongly.

The Fruit Record says: "We cannot grow peaches with success except we prune trees every year; leave but a single tree unpruned and its leaves are a light, sickly green, it bears one or two peaches, and that is the last of the tree. Where trees are pruned every year, cutting back more than half the growth of the season, peach trees bear from fifteen to twenty years, and some even more."

There are 4,840 hills of potatoes o evern to an acre, when three feet apart each way.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

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.0	do.			2,50
700	do	100		5,00
.500	do	4.71	*********	A 100
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- WU	API	HOXIMATIO:	N PRIZES.	
0.2	do.	tion Prizes	01 \$200	1.50
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A. H. KERR, "Inscapper ten.

A. H. KERR. "Inscarora two.
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